



# THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

**The Edinburgh Community Plan 2018-2028: June 2026 Refresh**  
**The Edinburgh Partnership's Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)**

# Foreword

Edinburgh is one of the best cities in the world in which to live and work. We live in a city full of prosperity and opportunity and, as a Partnership, we're working hard to ensure that all residents can share in our city's success.

But sadly, there's another side to this: today, one in five children are growing up in poverty, high housing costs are a challenge for many low and middle-income households and the life expectancy in our wealthiest areas is 21 years higher than in the poorest parts. The life chances of people across Edinburgh are still influenced too much by where they're born and not enough by their talent and ability. Poverty and inequality therefore continue to be the most important shared challenges we face, which no single partner alone can address.

This plan is a refresh of our 2018–2028 Community Plan, with a continued focus on tackling and preventing poverty. The three central themes remain the same, i.e. making sure our residents have:

1. Enough money to live on,
2. Access to work, learning or training opportunities and
3. Making sure people have a good place to live.

Whilst this is not a new plan, it takes account of and responds to the emerging and persistent challenges we face as a city. The updated actions have been developed with more than 40 organisations and groups of stakeholders, and community participation continues to be at the heart of community planning. The refresh aligns with recent national publications, including Scotland's [Population Health Framework](#), [Public Service Reform Strategy](#) and the [Edinburgh Poverty Commission's Interim Report](#) and draws on the most recently available data sources, as set out in the [Edinburgh Partnership Board's Data and Intelligence pages](#). We would like to extend our thanks to all those who gave their time, expertise and experience to support this work.

We believe this refreshed plan demonstrates our collective commitment to reducing poverty and inequality across the city, improving our residents' quality of life and giving everyone the opportunity to share in Edinburgh's success.

We look forward to working with you to make this happen.



**Edinburgh Partnership Chair**  
Councillor Jane Meagher  
Leader of City of Edinburgh Council



**Edinburgh Partnership Vice Chair**  
Susan Webb  
Director of Public Health, NHS Lothian

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# 1. The case for action

Edinburgh is changing — but who benefits from this isn't always fair

**Our Vision: “Edinburgh is a thriving, connected, inspired and fair city, where all forms of poverty and inequality are reduced.”**

Our shared vision is what drives the work outlined in this plan, because this vision is not yet a reality for everyone who calls Edinburgh their home.

Edinburgh is one of Europe's most successful cities. It has a growing, increasingly diverse population, a strong economy, and some of the best services in Scotland. But beneath that success lies a city of sharp and stubborn contrasts. Where we are born in Edinburgh, and the family circumstances we are born into, still shapes how long we live, how well we do at school, and whether we can afford to heat our home.

Despite continuous efforts, poverty rates have barely shifted in five years. The housing crisis is deepening. The costs of living are squeezing households that were never counted as poor before. And a new set of challenges, from exploitation to school readiness to community cohesion, has grown more pressing since this plan was last refreshed in 2022.

This is the Edinburgh Partnership's response. It is a refresh of our 2018–2028 Community Plan — not a new plan, but a recalibrated one. It takes account of what has changed, sharpens our focus on where action is most needed, and introduces a new way of measuring whether we are making a difference.

## Why refresh the plan with 21 months to go?

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires Community Planning Partnerships to keep their Community Plan up to date, ensuring it reflects the current needs, circumstances and aspirations of local communities. Our last refresh was in 2022 and responded to the pandemic and its aftermath. In the Partnership's collective view, this refresh responds to the most significant things that have changed since then and strengthens how we evidence to residents and Partners the impact our actions are having.

It is important to note that this is a refresh of the existing Plan, not a replacement. Work will shortly commence on a new Community Plan, which will be designed from the ground up to reflect the full breadth of change facing our communities, including the wider, more fundamental shifts in our social, economic and environmental landscape that this refresh acknowledges, but does not seek to address in full.

What has changed?	Why it matters to this plan
The cost-of-living crisis has intensified	Financial pressure now extends far beyond those traditionally counted as poor. Edinburgh's high housing costs mean households on moderate incomes are struggling in ways the original plan did not anticipate. The high costs of childcare and fuel can exacerbate these issues for those who were already having financial difficulties.
The Housing Emergency has been declared	There is no pathway to ending poverty in Edinburgh without resolving the housing and homelessness crisis. One in three Edinburgh households in poverty are in that situation because of excessive housing costs. ( <a href="#">Edinburgh Poverty Commission, 2020</a> )
New legislation and guidance	<p>The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act, 2024: Recognising that a LOIP should consider the needs and actions that cover the lifespan of citizens, this refresh provides an opportunity to include actions focused on children and young people.</p> <p>Common ground: Building cohesive communities by the Belong Network and the Local Government Association (2026): Provides timely practical support for the Partnership, setting out the relationships and partnership models that can be drawn upon to build and sustain social cohesion at a local level.</p>

	The Community Wealth Building (Scotland) Act, 2026: While Community Wealth Building was incorporated into the last refresh, the new Act and associated guidance will support the development of a strategic plan and Edinburgh specific actions.
New and growing concerns have emerged	In addition to the above, since 2022, exploitation, school readiness, mental wellbeing, community cohesion, and substance use harms, rising fuel prices (particularly in the wake of the 2026 conflict in the Middle East), and the deepening climate crisis have all grown in significance.

**Table 1:** Important changes for refreshing the Community Plan

This updated plan sets out the actions that the Edinburgh Partnership will take between now and 2028 and is supported by a Performance Framework that will evidence both progress and impact.

## 2. Who we are

The Edinburgh Partnership and how we work

### The Edinburgh Partnership

The Edinburgh Partnership (The Partnership) is the statutory Community Planning Partnership (CPP) for Edinburgh, established under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act, 2015. It brings together more than 40 organisations; public agencies, the third sector, the private sector, and communities - to plan for and deliver services that seek to address the underlying causes of poverty and inequality of outcome.

### **Our purpose**

To take proactive, targeted action so that people experiencing disadvantage have the same life chances as others, and to reduce reliance on crisis services.

### **Our approach**

To focus on a small number of high-impact priorities and tackle the underlying causes of inequality, primarily through prevention and early intervention.

### **Our Community Plan**

Sets out what only the Partnership can collectively do, with actions that require more than one partner to deliver, going beyond any individual organisation's business as usual.

Put simply, CPPs seek to work together to address issues that no single body can resolve in isolation, and ultimately it is about improving the quality of people's lives.

## **How we are governed**

Seven Strategic Partnerships bring together relevant partner organisations to lead work across Edinburgh's priority areas with a Chair and Lead Officer for each. A Management Group coordinates cross-cutting themes and will receive quarterly progress reports following this refresh, -people working within Partner organisations facilitate the Partnership's work and the [Edinburgh Partnership Board](#) provides overall strategic leadership. Full details of the Partnership's structure are in Appendix C.

## **What is the Edinburgh Community Plan?**

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires the Partnership to publish a Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP), which we call our Community Plan. This document sets out our shared priorities and what we will do together to make improvements, primarily through prevention and early intervention.

### **This refreshed plan:**

- Sets the shared strategic direction for community planning in Edinburgh to 2028 and should inform the plans of statutory partners.
- Describes the shared priorities we are working to achieve and our shared commitment to joined action.
- Sets out what we will do to achieve those priorities - all actions require more than one partner to deliver.
- Explains how we will measure progress through our new performance measurement framework.
- Provides a framework for every organisation involved in the Edinburgh Partnership to contribute to tackling poverty and inequality of outcomes.
- Is supported by a Performance Framework, with quarterly reporting.

**The plan is not:**

- A replacement for individual partner plans and strategies.
- A list of business-as-usual activities any single partner delivers alone.
- The only plan that matters, it sits alongside many others (see Appendix D)

### 3. What the data tells us

Understanding Edinburgh's people, outcomes, and challenges

#### Edinburgh in Numbers

These numbers are not just statistics. They represent real people in our city; people whose lives the Edinburgh Partnership exists to improve.

Edinburgh's population has changed significantly since this plan was first published in 2018. This refresh draws on two new Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNAs) covering [adult health and social care](#) and [children and young people](#), alongside [Scotland's Census \(2022\)](#) and other national and local data. This evidence has strengthened our understanding of who lives in Edinburgh and what support is most needed, particularly for those experiencing the greatest inequality.

#### Edinburgh: A population overview:

Source (unless hyperlinked): [Scotland's Census 2022](#)

Edinburgh is	Evidence
<b>A large and growing city</b>	530,680 people live in Edinburgh ( <a href="#">NRS, 2025</a> ), up 36,100 since the 2011 census. The population is projected to keep growing.

<b>Getting older</b>	Most population growth is in people aged 65 and over, who tend to have higher health and care needs.
<b>Becoming more ethnically diverse</b>	Around 15% of Edinburgh's population identify as Asian, Black, Mixed, or from another minority ethnic background, up from 8% in 2011. The largest group is Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British (8.6%).
<b>A city with significant pockets of poverty</b>	26% of residents (134,206 people) live in the most deprived 40% of areas in Scotland ( <a href="#">NRS, 2024</a> ). 17% of the population — 89,000 people including 18,000 children — were living in poverty ( <a href="#">EPC, 2025</a> ).
<b>Seeing growth where need is highest</b>	Older people, people from ethnic minority communities, and people in deprived areas all have greater health and social care needs, and these are the groups growing fastest. Population groups that are at greater risk of poverty e.g. <a href="#">priority family types</a> (such as lone parents, large families, families with a disabled member, and minority ethnic families) also require targeted prevention and early intervention.
<b>Experiencing long-standing inequality</b>	Despite Edinburgh's overall prosperity, inequality in outcomes has been largely static since 2010. For 7 of the 18 key performance indicators developed by the Improvement Service for CPPs, Edinburgh is not keeping pace with Scotland either in current outcomes, rate of improvement, or progress on reducing inequality ( <a href="#">CPOP</a> ; <a href="#">Scotland's National Outcomes</a> ). The details of these 7 indicators are below.
<b>A city in which where you live shapes how long you live</b>	Edinburgh's average life expectancy is 82.2 years for women and 78.3 for men, both better than Scotland. But women in the most deprived areas live 9 years less than those in the least deprived, and for men the gap is 12 years ( <a href="#">NRS, 2025</a> ).

**Table 2: Edinburgh population information**

## How inequality shows up

Edinburgh's overall prosperity masks sharp and stubborn divides. The data below sets out what inequality looks like in practice across income, employment, health, and place.

## Income, poverty and wellbeing

Source: [Scottish Government, 2025](#); [NHS Lothian, 2023](#)

Measure	Most deprived areas	Rest of Edinburgh	Ethnic dimension
<b>Food insecurity</b>	26.7%	6.3%	33.8% of African, Scottish African, British African, Caribbean or Black people vs 11.5% of white people
<b>Unable to heat home or cook</b>	27%	8.7%	32.6% of African, Scottish African, British African, Caribbean or Black people vs 13.1% of white people
<b>Poverty rate by ethnicity</b>	—	—	43% for Asian or Asian British; 50% for Mixed, Black or Black British and Other; 18% for White British

**Table 3:** *Edinburgh inequality data for poverty*

People in the most deprived areas are twice as likely to feel lonely most or all of the time, twice as likely to report low mental wellbeing, four times as likely to have been unable to heat their home, and three times as likely to have been unable to afford food in the past year ([Edinburgh Partnership Survey, 2023](#); [NHS Lothian, 2023](#)).

While the Poverty Commission's most recent report acknowledges that the maintenance, rather than worsening, of poverty levels may be reflective of the collective efforts made in the city over the past five years, more work is still needed – 36,000 people need to be lifted out of poverty by 2030 in order to meet targets. The nature of poverty is also changing. It is becoming deeper and harder to escape, with rising food insecurity, homelessness and destitution. The proportion of people in Edinburgh who experienced destitution (going without food, shelter, heat, or basic essentials) rose by 15% between 2019 and 2023.

## Employment and learning

The employment gap between ethnically diverse and white populations in Scotland was 13.8% in 2023 ([Scottish Government, 2024](#)). One in ten white people in Lothian are employed on a temporary contract, compared with over a quarter of African people (26.5%) and one in five Asian people (21.4%) ([NHS Lothian, 2023](#)).

Measure	Most deprived areas	Least deprived areas
Hold a degree	31.4%	65.2%
No formal qualifications	18.4%	3.7%
Low wellbeing	26.4%	9.6%
Life satisfaction (score out of 10)	6.3	7.1

**Table 4:** Edinburgh inequality in employment data

Source: [NHS Lothian, 2023](#)

## Place and safety

Two 2023 surveys, the [Edinburgh Partnership Survey](#) and the [NHS Lothian Population Health Survey](#), show that citywide averages hide a sharp divide.

Measure	Most deprived 20%	Rest of Edinburgh
Satisfied with neighbourhood	68%	95%
People from different backgrounds get on well	75%	93%
Feel safe after dark	50%	76%
Community works together to improve things	52%	73%

**Table 5:** Edinburgh inequality in experiences data

## The Community Planning Outcomes Profile

The Community Planning Outcomes Profile ([CPOP](#)) measures how Community Planning Partnerships across Scotland are performing against 18 key indicators identified by the Improvement Service. For 7 of the 18 key indicators, Edinburgh is not keeping pace with Scotland, either in current outcomes, rate of improvement, or progress on reducing inequality.



**Figure 1:** CPOP outcome indicators where Edinburgh is not performing better than Scotland

For more detailed population and outcome data, visit the [Edinburgh Partnership Data and Intelligence webpages](#).

## Emerging priorities

The data confirms that our three core priorities; Enough money to live on; Access to work, learning and training opportunities; and A good place to live, remain the right focus. But several additional concerns have grown in scale or emerged since 2018, such as:

- Homelessness
- School readiness
- Community cohesion
- Exploitation of children and adults
- Substance use harms
- Young people's mental wellbeing
- The deepening cost of living crisis
- The Climate Crisis

While the actions that individual Partners are taking on these issues will not be reflected in this Community Plan, the actions that we are taking together will be. Sometimes this might be via direct action, such as increasing housing supply in the city, including affordable housing (Action 1.5), delivering best start in life actions (Action 1.7), developing a joint community cohesion strategy (Action 3.19) and strengthening community mental health support (Action 2.12). Other planned actions target the [building blocks of health](#) (employment, housing, education and skills, childhood experiences, economic stability, healthcare and social/community structure and environment) or at improving resilience, which will indirectly benefit these emerging areas of need.

## 4. How we developed this plan

Community and partner engagement in the refresh

The work undertaken to develop the plan in 2017/2018, involved research by Public Health and engagement with partners and communities, including targeted work with groups whose voices are often underrepresented. This shaped our vision and priorities, which remain at the core for this refresh.

As we are updating (refreshing) the current plan, rather than developing a brand-new plan, formal consultation was not required. However, the EP is committed to meaningful engagement and the updated actions in this plan have been developed with more than 40 organisations, following a review of data and evidence (Section 2) and bringing together what we heard in recent engagement activity undertaken by Partners, which also ensured that actions are informed by the voices of people with lived experience of poverty and inequality, including children and young people. An overview of the engagement and participation process is at Appendix A.

In addition:

- The Third Sector Interface (TSI) and The Equality and Rights Network (EaRN) sought views from 30 community organisations through roundtable discussions, exploring how well the proposed actions align with community needs, what is missing, the risks of adverse effects (informing our updated Integrated Impact Assessment, IIA), and what impact participants would like to see.
- Members of the Lothian Association of Youth Club's (LAYC) Youth Work Manager's Forum, representing 15 youthwork

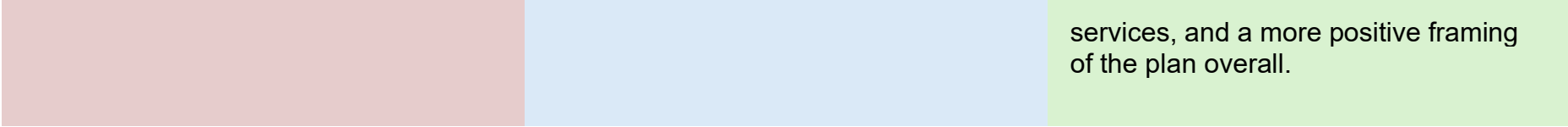
organisations, undertook a similar exercise focused on actions related to youth and children’s work.

- Edinburgh Partnership Board members participated in a workshop to identify gaps, flag actions of relevance to their organisations, and highlight where they would want to be involved.
- Lastly, the people that lead the seven thematic partnerships within the Edinburgh Partnership (see Appendix C) met with the Edinburgh Poverty Commission to review their findings and recommendations as they relate to the Community Plan and to agree where these are incorporated into actions for this refresh, and/or the new Community Plan from 2028 onward.

## What we heard

Feedback from the sessions led by the TSI, EaRN and LAYC, in addition to the Edinburgh Partnership Board:

Enough money to live on	Access to work, learning and training	A good place to live
<p>Participant welcomed the proposed actions and asked for greater clarity and better coordination between services, including actions around genuinely affordable housing and more integrated support to reduce duplication.</p> <p>The need to shift from managing symptoms to addressing root causes and for more third and private sector involvement, in addition to stronger accountability and improved outreach on financial literacy and better inclusion of young parents was also noted.</p>	<p>Feedback included a need for actions to improve support for people who are homeless, have disabilities, or have convictions. The need to break the housing-employment trap, to establish a better connection between the City Region Deal, NPPs, and employability actions and to ensure meaningful measurement around school attendance (not just data based) was identified.</p> <p>Questions were asked about the ability to deliver on some actions without additional funding. Childcare was noted as a key barrier to be addressed.</p>	<p>There was cautious optimism about NPPs and broad agreement on the need for a partnership approach locally, particularly for community safety and Bonfire Night. Concerns were raised about resource limitations and the practical implementation of Neighbourhood Prevention Partnerships (NPPs), to ensure local codesign.</p> <p>Other themes: more trauma-informed approaches, strengthening youth and children’s work, better support for victims and people leaving prison, deeper integration with addiction</p>



services, and a more positive framing of the plan overall.

## How we have responded

-In addition to the feedback above on the priorities, we also heard that grouping actions by themes within priorities was unhelpful. Actions are now grouped according to where they sit on the prevention spectrum, making clearer how our collective resources are being used. The actions have also been significantly revised to incorporate feedback. A full list of the actions and indicators of both progress and impact (outcome) for each can be found in Sections 7-9.

## The Third Sector Review

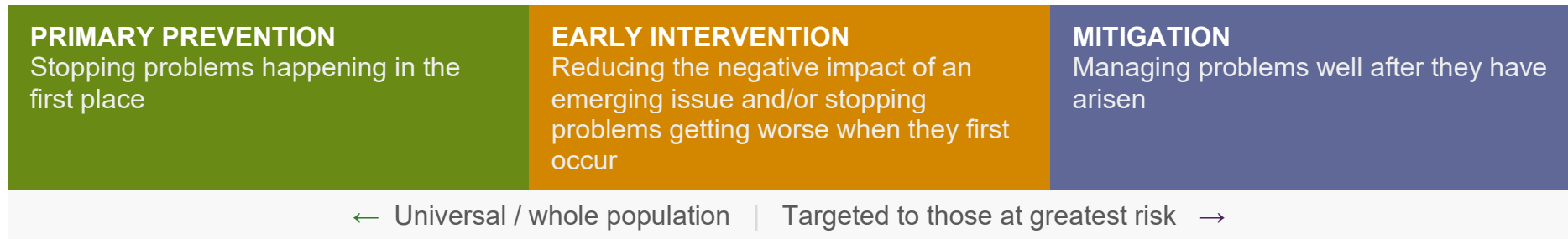
In 2025 the Edinburgh Partnership conducted a review of how it and its Partners support and work with third sector organisations in Edinburgh. This review included mechanisms for grant funding and commissioning, how we ask third sector organisations to monitor and report on what they do, and what in-kind support we provide. We recognise that a well-functioning third sector is essential for Edinburgh, and that third sector organisations are our partners in delivering a vast range of services to all communities in the city.

This Review helped us to better understand the third sector's experience of funding in Edinburgh. As a Partnership, we have sought to learn from this and are currently looking at ways to approach future funding of the third sector. This includes commitments by the [Edinburgh Partnership Board](#) to take a more joined-up approach to the use of individual partner funds to deliver against partnership outcomes in the remaining period of the current Community Plan, and to explore further options for joint commissioning / joint financial governance as part of the next Community Plan.

## Our Approach

### How we work: the prevention spectrum

The Partnership is committed to shifting from reactive responses to proactive, collaborative action that addresses the root causes of poverty and inequality. All actions in this plan are categorised according to whether they are a strategic action or where they sit on the prevention spectrum.



**Table 6:** Prevention spectrum

Categorising actions this way helps us, and the communities we serve, to see clearly where our collective resources are being invested. It is also how we hold ourselves to account.

Our Partners work together through many existing strategies and plans (see Appendix D). This Community Plan does not duplicate those, rather it sets out the additional actions, leadership, and collaboration that only the Partnership can provide. In doing so, the Partnership is committed to several guiding principles:

<b>Our guiding principles</b>	
<b>Community participation and co-production</b>	<p>The Partnership is committed to the National Standards for Community Engagement. Communities most affected by poverty and inequality should shape our work, not just receive it. We will develop a Communications and Engagement Plan outlining how Partners and community can be involved in the implementation and monitoring of this LOIP Refresh. A Communications and Engagement Plan will also be developed for the development of the next Community Plan.</p> <p>Finally, a Participation Strategy will be codesigned to agree how Partners and community members will be involved in the Edinburgh Partnership and the decisions it makes on an ongoing basis moving forward.</p> <p>Community needs are at the heart of everything we do. Our IIA process, and in the case of NHS Lothian, the Equalities and Children's Rights Assessment, ensures that when we</p>

	propose new services or decisions, an intersectional lens is applied to achieve equity and uphold human rights. The IIA for this refresh is published alongside this plan.
<b>Focus on poverty and inequality</b>	Tackling poverty and inequality is the most important shared challenge we face. No single partner can address it alone. It sits at the centre of everything we do.
<b>Proportionate universalism</b>	We design services for the whole population but scale our effort in proportion to need, investing most where need is greatest, for example where we develop Locality Plans and Neighbourhood Prevention Partnerships (targeting support within the city).
<b>Planning for future needs</b>	For example, climate change, nature loss, and adverse weather disproportionately affect people in the most deprived communities. This is a matter of equality as well as environment.
<b>Effective performance management</b>	We need to be better at evidencing our impact. A new quarterly performance management tool will be introduced alongside this plan as well as longer-term monitoring of relevant outcomes e.g. child poverty, attainment, crime rates, satisfaction of neighbourhood and life expectancy by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD).

*Table 7: Our guiding principles*

## 5. Our priorities

Three areas where we will act together

In 2017/18, through consultation with partners and communities, we identified where additional action, beyond what any single partner can deliver, was needed. Drawing on data as well as guidance from Public Health Scotland, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, and the [Christie Commission](#), three priorities were established. They remain the right focus.

<b>Priority 1</b> <b>Enough money to live on</b>	<b>Priority 2</b> <b>Access to work, learning and training opportunities</b>	<b>Priority 3</b> <b>A good place to live</b>
<p>Income is the clearest indicator of whether a household can maintain an acceptable standard of living. Actions in this priority focus on maximising income, particularly for those on the lowest incomes, and improving access to affordable housing.</p> <p>We also recognise that Edinburgh's high cost of living means financial pressure extends to households that would not necessarily be counted as poor elsewhere; our approach takes account of this broader reality while keeping the sharpest focus where hardship is deepest.</p>	<p>Worklessness is the single strongest predictor of poverty; 71% of children in households where no adult works live below the poverty threshold (<a href="#">Leeds Observatory, 2018</a>). But work alone is not enough: 61% of people in poverty in Edinburgh live in a household where at least one adult is working (<a href="#">Edinburgh Poverty Commission, 2025</a>).</p> <p>This priority provides additional targeted support to help residents access the work, learning, and training they need to achieve and sustain a good quality of life.</p>	<p>Where people live, the safety of their neighbourhood, their connections with others, and their ability to shape the decisions that affect them, has a profound impact on wellbeing.</p> <p>This priority focuses on the additional actions needed to ensure residents can access affordable, safe, well-designed, and inclusive places to live, and can find the right help, where and when they need it.</p>

### How our Priorities relate to the National Outcomes

The National Performance Framework (NPF) is Scotland's wellbeing framework. Under section 4(4) of the [Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015](#), the Edinburgh Partnership has a legislative duty to set out how our priorities relate to Scotland's National Outcomes. The NPF is currently under review, but this duty remains. Across the piece, our actions seek primarily to address Outcome 11 (Poverty) and tackle the underlying causes of health inequality (Outcome 8).

Priority	Primary links to the 11 National Outcomes
Priority 1: Enough money to live on	(1) Children & young people and (9) Human Rights
Priority 2: Access to work, learning & training opportunities	(7) Fair work & Business, (5) Education, (4) Economy, (1) Children & young people, (2) Communities, (3) Culture, (9) Human Rights
Priority 3: A good place to live	(1) Children and young people, (2) Communities, (3) Culture, (6) Environment, and (9) Human Rights

**Table 8:** National Outcome alignment in our Community Plan

## How the sections that follow work

In each priority section you will find:	What it tells you
What do we know?	The evidence: scale of the challenge and the opportunity for action
What are we doing now?	Current partnership activity, and where the gaps are
What difference will we make?	The changes our actions will deliver

**Table 9:** Navigating the priority sections

Section 10: Measuring what Matters, includes all the specific actions relating to each priority area.

## 6. Priority 1: Enough money to live on

Maximising income and addressing the drivers of financial hardship

Poverty occurs when resources fall below the level needed to meet minimum needs. Income is the most direct indicator of whether a household can maintain an acceptable standard of living and participate in society.

## What do we know?

Edinburgh's poverty rates have barely changed since 2020 and remain well above our 2030 targets. While the Poverty Commission's most recent report acknowledges that the maintenance, rather than worsening, of poverty levels may be reflective of the collective efforts made in the city over the past five years, more work is still needed. The nature of poverty is also changing — it is becoming deeper and harder to escape. The proportion of people who experienced destitution — going without food, shelter, heat, or basic essentials — rose 15% between 2019 and 2023, and levels of persistent poverty have risen ([EPC, 2025](#)). As the data section (Section 3) shows, 17% of Edinburgh's population — 89,000 people, including 18,000 children — are living in poverty.

## Housing as a driver of poverty

There is no pathway to ending poverty in Edinburgh without resolving the city's housing and homelessness crisis. Excessive housing costs are a primary reason that one in three Edinburgh households are in poverty, and Edinburgh is the least affordable city in Scotland to buy a home — the average house price is approximately seven times [average gross annual earnings](#) ([ONS, 2026](#)). In September 2025, 4,802 Edinburgh households, including 3,640 children, were in temporary accommodation ([Scottish Government, 2025](#)).

## Working poverty and income

Work alone is not enough. 61% of people living in poverty in Edinburgh live in a household where at least one adult is working, and 15,000 people in Edinburgh are in work but still depend on Universal Credit to top up their income ([EPC, 2025](#)). Childcare costs can push people on moderate incomes into poverty, and tax-free childcare remains underutilised. If child maintenance were paid to all children currently not receiving what they are entitled to, the [IPPR \(2025\)](#) estimates 210,000 children would be lifted out of poverty across the UK — including 20,000 in Scotland.

## Who is most affected?

Poverty and its consequences are not evenly distributed. People in the most deprived areas, and people from ethnic minority communities, experience significantly higher rates of food insecurity and fuel poverty, as set out in the data section (Section 3). Child maintenance non-payment disproportionately affects single parents. People with disabilities, people involved in the justice system, and large and lone-parent families face the greatest barriers to financial stability.

## What are we doing now?

Community Planning Partners including the Council, NHS Lothian, housing providers, and the third sector provide or fund a range of services to support people experiencing financial hardship. The introduction of the Advice Network by the Edinburgh Partnership

has improved coordination of these services. That said, funding routes are fragmented, timescales often misalign, and quality and accessibility varies across the city. It remains difficult to consistently target provision to highest need.

- Welfare rights advice, income maximisation, debt advice, emergency grants and loans, and housing advice and support are provided or funded across the Partnership.
- The Advice Network has improved coordination of these services, though gaps remain in targeting provision to those with the highest need.
- Childcare costs can push people on moderate incomes into poverty. Tax-free childcare is underutilised and child maintenance is rarely discussed as a child's right or an income maximisation tool.
- More joined-up action is needed to support homelessness prevention, early intervention, and mitigation.

### **What difference will we make?**

- Deliver a more coordinated income maximisation approach across the whole city, so that residents can access the same high-quality support wherever they are.
- Make services more accessible, more targeted and better coordinated, focusing on those in greatest need — including lone parents, low-income families, people with disabilities, and people involved in the justice system — and targeting provision in communities with the highest need.
- Develop and deliver a training programme across the Partnership focused on homelessness prevention, including through the Ask and Act pilot.
- Improve childcare access and support across the city.
- Deliver best-start-in-life actions.
- Expand poverty awareness and financial literacy initiatives, such as the '1in5' programme in schools.
- IN delivering on the actions included in Priority 1, it is anticipated that we will positively impact measures not directly addressed, including people's ability to heat their homes.

## 7. Priority 2: Access to work, learning and training opportunities

Ensuring everyone can access the opportunities Edinburgh has to offer

The number of people claiming out-of-work benefits has remained high since the pandemic, with more people reporting unemployment because of poor health. Work alone is not necessarily enough, we will provide additional targeted services to help residents access the work, learning, and training they need.

### What do we know?

As the data section (Section 3) shows, worklessness alone does not explain poverty in Edinburgh, 61% of people in poverty live in a household where at least one adult is working ([EPC, 2025](#)). Increasing the number of parents in work remains one of the most significant levers available: modelling suggests that doing so could lift 60,000 children in Scotland out of poverty by 2030/31.

### Barriers to employment are not evenly shared

Access to work, learning and training is shaped by where you live, your background, and your circumstances. The employment gap between ethnically diverse and white populations in Scotland was 13.8% in 2023 ([Scottish Government, 2024](#)), and poverty rates for Mixed, Black or Black British and Other groups reach 50% ([Scottish Government, 2025](#)). One in ten white people in Lothian are employed on a temporary contract, compared with over a quarter of African people (26.5%) and one in five Asian people (21.4%) ([NHS Lothian, 2023](#)).

Educational attainment, one of the strongest predictors of employment outcomes, is deeply shaped by deprivation. 31.4% of those in the most deprived areas hold a degree, compared with 65.2% in the least deprived. 18.4% of people in the most deprived areas have no formal qualifications, compared with 3.7% in the least deprived ([NHS Lothian, 2023](#)). There is also a 7% gap in positive destinations between the best and worst performing wards in Edinburgh, and care-experienced young people are less likely to be in positive destinations on leaving school ([Scottish Government, 2024](#)).

### **Systemic gaps compound individual barriers**

People can find it difficult to reach help quickly, multiple agencies often work with the same family without being joined up. Systemic failure occurs where individuals consistently fall through the gaps ([EPC, 2020](#)). This is particularly acute for people with the most complex needs: those experiencing homelessness, poor health, disability, or involvement in the justice system, and for those for whom childcare remains a barrier to entering or sustaining employment.

### **What are we doing now?**

Edinburgh's employability offer is structured around an Employability Pipeline. The Local Employability Partnership (LEP) ensures a joined-up approach, avoids duplication, and identifies gaps. For many residents this works well. But for those with the most complex needs, and for groups who face systemic barriers, additional partnership effort is needed.

- A complex-needs employability service focused on substance misuse, homelessness, and the justice system.
- A Whole Family Equality Approach supporting ethnically diverse families.
- An expanded offer for people with disabilities and long-term health conditions.
- Youth work supporting young people's achievement, employability, and wellbeing.
- Stronger links between education, employability, and employers; vocational pathways through schools and colleges into key growth industries.

### **What difference will we make?**

- Establish a Digital Inclusion Network as a first step towards a Minimum Digital Living Standard across the city, supporting people experiencing digital exclusion.
- Develop a dedicated youth employability hub and partnerships with education colleagues to support young people, particularly those with care experience or additional support needs, through school and beyond, with continued support when first destinations are not sustained.
- Strengthen community mental health support and its connection to employability, including a pilot in Wester Hailes co-locating health and DWP services, to improve outcomes for people experiencing health or mental health difficulties.
- Expand ESOL employability provision to improve progression towards employment for New Scots and people with English as a second language.
- Develop joined-up pathways to better support people from ethnically diverse backgrounds to access services and improve outcomes, and work with employers to improve recruitment from these communities.
- Map financial literacy provision across schools, youth work, and community settings to identify gaps and ensure all children and young people can access this support.

- Support employers to better understand and adopt fair work practices.
- Strengthen links between community justice and employability services to support people on release from prison through a systematic, holistic, long-term partnership approach.

## 8. Priority 3: A good place to live

Building places where everyone can thrive

The places people live and work, their connections with others, and their ability to influence decisions that affect them all have a significant impact on quality of life and wellbeing. Where you live in Edinburgh, and the circumstances you live in, shapes your health, your safety, and your experience of poverty.

### What do we know?

The physical environment, social networks, housing design, and access to public services are key determinants of health ([Scotland's Population Health Framework 2025–2035](#); [COSLA and Scottish Government, 2018](#)). For children and young people, growing up in a healthy and safe neighbourhood, including access to green space, is essential to giving them the best possible start ([Institute of Health Equity, 2020](#)).

### The inequality of place

The data section (Section 3) sets out the full picture of deprivation and inequality in Edinburgh. Within that picture, where you live shapes your daily experience in sharp and measurable ways. 26.4% of those in the most deprived areas experience low wellbeing, compared with 9.6% in the least deprived. Life satisfaction ranges from 63% in the most deprived areas to 71% in the least ([NHS Lothian, 2023](#)). Those areas where poverty is highest also show lower satisfaction with neighbourhood and lower perceptions of safety after dark ([Edinburgh Partnership Survey, 2023](#)). Fuel poverty is strongly associated with both deprivation and ethnicity; full detail is set out in the data section. As the data section also shows, the gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas of Edinburgh is 9 years for women and 12 years for men.

### What communities tell us

Community engagement consistently identifies placemaking as important. People want more integrated transport, better use of civic space, and services that respond to local context. Community Wealth Building is central to this — local economic opportunity

is essential for vibrant neighbourhoods and underpins anti-poverty work more broadly. Our communities also need to prepare for and adapt to the challenges of the climate crisis, which disproportionately affects people in the most deprived communities.

### **What are we doing now?**

Partners across the city are working together to deliver a more joined-up approach to placemaking, community safety, and climate action. The current focus is on embedding local partnerships in areas of greatest need and building the workforce capacity to deliver effective, place-based support.

- A refreshed Place Partnership is working to ensure a joined-up approach to placemaking across the city, with a current focus on supporting the embedding of five Neighbourhood Prevention Partnership (NPP) test sites — in Wester Hailes, Restalrig, Liberton, Craigmillar, and Pilton — bringing together communities to understand and respond to local need.
- Developing Locality Plans in areas of most concentrated poverty, and establishing mechanisms for city-wide responses to Locality Plans.
- A city-wide community centre review to strengthen these vital local resources.
- Coordinated workforce development to improve frontline staff confidence in having good conversations and signposting people to support.
- Delivering projects to mitigate and adapt to climate change: flood protection, nature and ocean restoration, building retrofit, sustainable transport, and access to sustainable, affordable food.
- A refreshed Community Safety and Justice Partnership (CSJP) is delivering on the Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) and establishing key work streams.

### **What difference will we make?**

- Make it as easy as possible for individuals and staff to access services and opportunities at local and city-wide levels.
- Develop a universal offer and a proposed play strategy to support earlier intervention and prevention.
- Build on our partnership approach to Bonfire Night, taking a preventative approach to anti-social behaviour, including small grant resource to provide diversionary activities for young people.
- Take a partnership and prevention-focused approach to community cohesion, hate crime, and exploitation in the city.
- Improve the experience of justice services for victims and families, and take actions to establish sustainable housing pathways for people released from prison and improved community supports for people involved in the justice system, to reduce repeat offending and homelessness numbers.
- Deliver on our climate commitments — retrofit and energy efficiency, adaptation, nature restoration, and sustainable transport — embedding just transition principles throughout.

- Embed Community Wealth Building approaches into place-based developments, in line with the Community Wealth Building (Scotland) Act 2026.
- We will dedicate additional resource to five areas of concentrated child poverty within Edinburgh through our Neighbourhood Prevention Partnership (NPP) model.
- We will codesign Locality Plans in each of the NPP areas based on what communities tell us.
- We will learn through this work how services can better support residents across Edinburgh.

## 9. Measuring what matters

Our performance framework and accountability

One of the clearest things we heard from partners and communities during this refresh is that we need to be better at evidencing our impact. This plan introduces a performance management approach to address that.

We will measure:

- Progress against actions – tracking delivery milestones
- The difference our actions ultimately make (outcomes), including on people’s lives, experience of services and the places we live.
- City-wide indicators – CPOP and additional local indicators (further details will be shared on our website)
- Qualitative evidence – for actions involving relationship building, cultural change or place-based working

Reports will be submitted to the Management Group and Edinburgh Partnership Board. Communities will be able to see what the Partnership is delivering and whether it is making a difference through published papers and quarterly progress updates shared on our website.

The actions the Partnership has committed to delivering are listed in the tables below, for each of the 3 priority areas.

## Priority 1: Enough money to live on: Actions and Performance Indicators

Action	Action Type	How will we address this Priority?	Who will make it happen?	How will we know we are making progress?	How will we know the difference we've made?
1.1	Strategic	Develop & deliver a coordinated approach to data linkage to allow better targeting on anti-poverty and homelessness prevention interventions	Housing Partnership and Children's Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan for use developed to increase impact across the EP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homeless prevention numbers</li> <li>• Implementation of recommendations from Scottish Health Equity Research Unit Report</li> <li>• <b>CPOP</b> - Child poverty</li> <li>• <b>CPOP</b> – Fuel Poverty</li> </ul>
1.2	Strategic	Agree and implement a common Edinburgh approach to income maximisation — establishing a consistent set of standards for commissioned services so that people who access services experience the same high standard of advice across Edinburgh	Housing Partnership (Advice Partnership)	<p>Further definition required, may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uptake of services</li> <li>• Number of people supported with welfare rights queries by funded providers inc by demographic/geography</li> <li>• Scottish Welfare Fund payments</li> <li>• Discretionary Housing payments</li> <li>• Outcomes for people supported</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CPOP</b> - Child poverty</li> <li>• Persistent poverty: Proportion of children who have lived in relative poverty in three or more of the last four years.</li> </ul>
1.3	Strategic	Deliver training and awareness raising on poverty across the Edinburgh Partnership	Housing Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of training sessions delivered by org delivering</li> <li>• # of people attending training sessions by org</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CPOP</b> - Child poverty</li> <li>• Increase knowledge across partners about the causes and impact of poverty and sources of support - survey (post session)</li> <li>• Contributes to making the process of seeking help less painful, less complex, more</li> </ul>



		<p>waivers in relation to the certificate of lawfulness for childcare providers operating from domestic premises.</p> <p>d) Work in partnership to develop and deliver workshops for parents to improve awareness of childcare provision, access, timelines and support in the city.</p>			<p>providers operating from domestic premises</p> <p>Childcare providers operating from domestic premises report barriers reduced to beginning operations.</p> <p>Parents report greater understanding of the childcare system in Edinburgh.</p>
1.5	Prevention	Work in partnership to increase housing supply in the city, including affordable housing. Target: 52,000 by 2035 (36,000 affordable)	Housing Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•# of consents to build (by sector), •# of completions, £ investment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Increase in number of affordable homes in the city</li> <li>• No. of homeless households in the city</li> </ul>
1.6	Prevention	Deliver Ask & Act project to increase uptake of homelessness prevention opportunities and apply lessons learned across the city	Housing Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Awareness training # sessions delivered (by partner)</li> <li>•Increase in service uptake</li> <li>•Applying lessons learned</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•No. of homeless presentations in Wester Hailes vs other areas of the city (by demographic)</li> </ul>
1.7	Prevention	Deliver best start in life actions, including actions to improve equity of uptake of relevant services	Children's Partnership		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developmental Concerns</li> <li>• <b>CPOP</b>: Healthy Birthweight</li> <li>• <b>CPOP</b> - P1 Body Mass Index (healthy weight)</li> </ul>
1.8	Prevention	Develop and deliver Child Poverty Accelerator Fund project: Take a data led approach to tackling poverty in Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities and migrant or refugee families,	Housing Partnership (Advice Partnership)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of participants in the program</li> <li>•Increase in benefit uptake in these demographics</li> <li>•Income generated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b>CPOP</b> - Child poverty</li> </ul>

		focusing on benefits uptake			
<b>1.9</b>	Early Intervention	Investigate food support needed in temporary accommodation	Housing Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Effective mechanisms of food support are in place for people across the range of temporary accommodation types and rough sleepers.</li> <li>•Delivery of different food support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No. of people in temporary accommodation seeking emergency food support will reduce.</li> </ul>
<b>1.10</b>	Early Intervention	Develop and deliver Child Poverty Accelerator project to establish systems and training to raise the profile of Child Maintenance as a key form of income maximisation by improving awareness and confidence among those supporting single parents (and other families entitled to CM), and to reduce the number of unpaid child maintenance payments in Edinburgh.	Housing Partnership (Advice Partnership)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•No. of Confident Conversations training sessions completed</li> <li>•Practitioner Network established – No. of participant orgs</li> <li>•No. of parents actively participating in the design and development of the project</li> <li>•No. Systems adapted to meet an agreed baseline for tracking &amp; reporting on child maintenance conversations, receipt, amount etc.</li> <li>•% single parents with dependant children where child maintenance was included in financial inclusion conversations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No. of child maintenance applications</li> <li>• No. of child maintenance agreements that are in place</li> <li>• No. of child maintenance agreements that are in place for children under 20, that are not being paid</li> <li>• Financial gain for single parents/families with children linked to child maintenance.</li> </ul>

**Table 10: Priority 1: Actions and Performance Indicators**

**Priority 2: Access to work, learning and training opportunities: Actions and Performance Indicators:**

Action	Type of Action	How will we address this Priority?	Who will make it happen?	How will we know we are making progress?	How will we know the difference we've made?
2.1	Strategic	Further Digital Inclusion Short Life Working Group recommendations (links to	Lead: Edinburgh Community Learning &	• Network membership list established and regularly updated	Professionals and clients report better navigation of digital inclusion landscape and

		<p>Priority 1):</p> <p>a) Establish a Digital Inclusion Network to share information, learning and resources, hosting training and encouraging collaborative working.</p> <p>b) Improve Service Visibility via a marketing &amp; comms. strategy supporting professionals &amp; clients to navigate the DI landscape.</p> <p>c) Develop recommendations for Officer Resource need to support the above.</p>	<p>Development Partnership (ECLDP)</p> <p>Support/Link: LEP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum number of meetings scheduled</li> <li>• Resource identified to improve visibility (short term)</li> <li>• Minimum digital standard (access to equipment and digital literacy - long term)</li> <li>• Campaign launched</li> <li>• Recommendations developed &amp; tabled</li> </ul>	<p>find the support they need more quickly.</p>
2.2	Strategic	Deliver actions to support employers to adopt fair work practices	Lead: Local Employability Partnership (LEP)	•Number of businesses signed up to Living Wage Charter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of people claiming in work Universal Credit will reduce</li> <li>• <b>CPOP</b> - Median Earnings</li> <li>• <b>CPOP</b> – Fuel Poverty</li> </ul>
2.3	Prevention	Undertake a mapping exercise of financial education/financial literacy programmes being delivered across settings (early years, primary, secondary, youth work and community settings)	Lead: ECLD Partnership	•Number of settings responding to mapping request	•Identification of settings with no current financial education provision
2.4	Prevention	Support youth and children's workers to deliver Youth Awards and raise recognition of SQA equivalent awards in	Lead: ECLDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Baseline established of current Youth Awards delivery across youth and children's work settings.</li> <li>•Training delivered for</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Improved business and employer engagement with Youth Awards.</li> <li>•Improved Further and Higher Education engagement with</li> </ul>

		Business and Local employment sector, and Further and Higher Education.		youthwork workforce focused on Digital Learner Profile & Achievements. •Increase Learner Profile usage beyond education, which increased data available around skills and skill gaps.	Youth Awards. •Increased recognition of the skills developed by young people through Youth Awards delivered in youth work settings.
2.5	Prevention	Increase the number of adult ESOL learners who complete employability programmes	Lead: ECLDP Support/Link: LEP	Baseline established of current ESOL employability activity	•Increased number of adult ESOL learners who have successfully completed employability programmes. •ESOL learners will report increased progression towards employment. • <b>CPOP</b> - Employment rate • <b>CPOP</b> – Fuel Poverty
2.6	Prevention	Ongoing work with education colleagues to improve positive destination post school through dedicated pathways. Work in partnership with DWP to establish a Youth Employability Hub to increase visibility of youth employability services.	Lead: LEP Support/Link: ECLDP	Baseline from participation measure for 16-24 year olds, claimant count	•Reduction in number of young people claiming out of work benefits •Higher than Scottish average results in the School Leavers Destination Results and Participation Measure •Young People (particularly those with ASN and care experience) are supported through school and beyond to find a positive destination that suits their needs (case studies/testimony & <b>CPOP</b> Positive Destinations) • <b>CPOP</b> - Employment rate
2.7	Prevention	Develop pathways to support people to move	Lead: LEP	Fewer people claiming in work element of UC	•Reduction in number of people claiming in work

		from low-income work to fair, sustainable work.			benefits. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPOP - Median Earnings</li> <li>• CPOP – Fuel Poverty</li> </ul>
2.8	Prevention	Deliver actions to establish joined-up supports for Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities and recent migrants to improve access to work	Lead: LEP	Data from Helix system (no local data for race employment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment rate (by ethnicity)</li> <li>• Median Earnings (by ethnicity)</li> <li>• Fuel Poverty (by ethnicity)</li> </ul>
2.9	Prevention	Increase the number of adults who achieve community-based qualifications at SCQF Levels 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.	Lead: ECLDP	Baseline established of current accredited adult learning activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased number of adult learners who have successfully completed community-based awards at SCQF Levels 2-6. This will create an improved pathway into further accredited learning for adult learners.</li> </ul>
2.10	Prevention	Delivery of training for youth and children's work staff to support safe, engaging and quality youth and children's work provision.	Lead: ECLDP  Support/Link: Children's Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numbers of participants engaged in training.</li> <li>• Number of training sessions delivered.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numbers of participants engaged in training.</li> <li>• Number of training sessions delivered.</li> </ul>
2.11	Prevention	Increase the number of families who attend community-based family learning programmes	Lead: ECLDP	Baseline established of current family learning activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased number of families who are engaged in family learning programmes. Parents and carers will report increased progression on to further community based adult learning.</li> </ul>
2.12	Early Intervention	Strengthen community mental health support, and inclusive youth and children's work to improve engagement in learning	Lead: Children's Partnership	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPOP - Attainment</li> <li>• CPOP - Positive destinations</li> <li>• Additional qualitative measures tbc</li> </ul>

		and increase equity of outcomes			
2.13	Early Intervention	Strengthen links between health and employability services, ensuring that the LEP and HSCP work in tandem to improve outcomes for people with disabilities and long-term health conditions	Lead: LEP Support: IJB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activity to progress/support project</li> <li>• Ensure that GP link workers have information to make good referrals to employability services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No of GP Link workers referring to employability</li> <li>• Number of people claiming benefits due to health reasons in Edinburgh</li> <li>• Implementation of recommendations from Scottish Health Equity Research Unit Report</li> <li>• Implementation of recommendations from Wester Hailes Pilot evaluation.</li> <li>• <b>CPOP:</b> Employment rate</li> </ul>
2.14	Mitigation	Develop a partnership approach to supporting people with convictions to move into employment, training and/or other meaningful activity.	Lead: LEP Support/Link: CSJP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Data from Helix system, record outcomes for people with criminal convictions.</li> <li>•Positive destinations following release from prison (data access required including follow up after at least 9 months).</li> <li>•Data relating to access to learning and training resources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b>CPOP:</b> Crime Rate</li> <li>•Recidivism rate (Edinburgh)</li> <li>• <b>CPOP:</b> Employment rate</li> </ul>

**Table 11:** Priority 2: Actions and Performance Indicators

### Priority 3: A Good Place to Live: Actions and Performance Indicators

Action	Type of Action	How will we address this Priority?	Who will make it happen?	How will we know we are making progress?	How will we know the difference we've made?
3.1	Strategic	Establish governance for overall NPP programme	Lead: Place Partnership	•Governance group established	NA

				•Posts filled	
3.2	Strategic	Local NPPs to be established with a Lead Coordinator, Partnership Group and workplan in Wester Hailes, Restalrig, Liberton, Craigmillar and Pilton	Lead: Place Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Coordinators in post</li> <li>•Group established/links made to existing group (if applicable)</li> <li>•Work plan established</li> </ul>	NA
3.3	Strategic	Develop a codesigned Locality Plan for each NPP area to address Place and Wellbeing Outcomes (linked to both City Plan and Service Delivery)	Lead: Place Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Locality Plans Developed</li> <li>•Actions allocated to responsible individuals</li> <li>•Mechanism established for monitoring delivery of Locality Plans</li> </ul>	<p>Partners (including CEC departments) work better together to address needs identified, measured by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Staff satisfaction with problem resolution (via evaluation survey)</li> <li>•Community satisfaction with problem resolution (via evaluation survey)</li> <li>•Rating of neighbourhood as a place to live by SIMD</li> </ul>
3.4	Strategic	Develop a mechanism to support non-NPP areas to develop Locality Plans for their areas in accordance with the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and associated guidance.	Lead: Place Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Locality Plans Developed with performance framework</li> <li>•Actions allocated to responsible individuals</li> <li>•Mechanism established for monitoring delivery of Locality Plans</li> </ul>	<p>Partners (including CEC departments) work better together to address needs identified, measured by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Staff satisfaction with problem resolution (via evaluation survey)</li> <li>•Community satisfaction with problem resolution (via evaluation survey)</li> <li>•Rating of neighbourhood as a place to live by SIMD</li> </ul>
3.5	Strategic	Work in partnership to develop a Participation Strategy for the Edinburgh Partnership	Lead: Community Planning Support Team (CPST) / Management Group (CPMG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Comms &amp; engagement plan developed</li> <li>•Definitions agreed</li> <li>•Co-design workshops completed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Community Planning Partners have a clear understanding of the agreed definitions and know when and how to engage.</li> </ul>

				Strategy approved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Community Bodies better understand the ways in which they can participate in the EP and are supported to do so.</li> </ul>
3.6	Strategic	Classify the city's housing to enable a strategic approach to the energy retrofit of social housing (climate mitigation)	Lead: Net Zero Edinburgh Leadership Board (NZELB) Support/Link: Housing Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The completion of the integration of different archetypes and building information into a Climate Action Map that is available for the partnership for future action.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•A more strategic approach to energy retrofit to housing types to streamline construction and funding mechanisms to support the retrofit of social housing.</li> <li>•Rating of neighbourhood as a place to live by SIMD</li> </ul>
3.7	Strategic	Work with partners to meet the requirements of the Community Wealth Building (Scotland) Act 2026	Lead: Management Group	Working group established Plan developed & agreed Actions assigned to appropriate COMMUNITY PLAN priorities	To be determined
3.8	Strategic	Provide targeted support to Community Centre Management Committees to maintain and improve local access to existing community centres.	Lead: ECLDP Support: Place Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Evidence of more robust governance of Community Centres.</li> <li>•Increased funding secured by Management Committees through fundraising.</li> <li>•Management Committees feel more skilled and confident in carrying out their role.</li> <li>•Evidence that Management Committees are engaging with local communities and developing programmes and activities that reflect local need.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Capacity, skills and confidence of Management Committees of Community Centres are strengthened (Case studies, Feedback from CC Forum).</li> <li>•Local communities have access to activities and services that reflect local needs and address poverty and inequality (Centre programmes/User feedback).</li> <li>•Evidence of use of centres by a wider range of groups (Data collection).</li> </ul>

3.9	Strategic	Develop a Strategic Business Case (SBC) for an integrated regional transport network - 'SEStransit'.	Lead: NZELB	Strategic Business Case delivered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance transport connectivity by sustainable modes of transport.</li> <li>• Rating of neighbourhood as a place to live by SIMD</li> </ul>
3.10	Strategic	Work in partnership to develop and present for approval a Good Food Nation Plan in accordance with Scottish government legislation and guidance.	Lead: NZELB	Clear, outcome-driven plan in place to support access to sustainable, safe, nutritious, affordable and age and culturally appropriate food.	To be determined by the plan.
3.11	Strategic	Work in partnership to establish a dynamic, visual monitoring system (Climate View Platform) to track delivery of actions to mitigate city emissions.	Lead: NZELB	Enhanced intelligence derived from new monitoring system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Enhanced progress tracking for climate action to inform prioritisation and identify challenges/opportunities to unblock these.</li> <li>•CPOP - Carbon Emissions</li> </ul>
3.12	Strategic	Coordinate the development and delivery of an Edinburgh Play Strategy that increases equitable access to informal learning, play, leisure and culture opportunities for children and young people.	Lead: Children's Partnership	Coordinate working group with relevant stakeholders; develop action plan; initiate consultation with wider stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•CPOP - P1 Body Mass Index (healthy weight)</li> <li>•CPOP - Attainment</li> <li>•CPOP - Positive destinations</li> <li>•Rating of neighbourhood as a place to live by SIMD</li> </ul>
3.13	Prevention	Develop coordinated workforce development so that more frontline staff in the city have the tools to have good conversations and be able to action the findings.	Lead: CPMG/CPST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Training developed</li> <li>•Training delivered</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Staff knowledge improved</li> <li>•Staff satisfaction improved</li> </ul>
3.14	Prevention	Develop an online map of volunteering opportunities relevant to climate, nature and food growing.	Lead: NZELB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Map is live and promoted</li> <li>•Number of searches</li> <li>•Number of volunteers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction of flood risk to residents</li> <li>• Reduction of flood risk in city wide surface water management flood plans</li> <li>• Rating of neighbourhood as</li> </ul>

					a place to live (by SIMD)
3.15	Prevention	Design interventions to combat flooding	Lead: NZELB	Completion of 2 intervention projects.	Reduced flood risk and surface water (and sewerage) flooding.
3.16	Prevention	Complete Stage 1 of the Coastal Change Adaptation Plan (CCAP) to better understand the actions needed to prevent flooding and damages at specific trigger points.	Lead: NZELB.	Completion of Stage 1 of the CCAP, with Committee approval.	Detailed understanding of the condition of city's coastal assets and development of policies and potential triggers/actions to inform future management of the coast.
3.17	Prevention	Establish new short-life Source to Ocean Action Recovery working group (SOAR) to provide citywide leadership in defining the City's role within the wider goals of ocean recovery — identifying opportunities for ocean literacy, coastal adaptation and habitat restoration.	Lead: NZELB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Define what ocean recovery looks like within the remit of the Council.</li> <li>•Define what the Council can do to support the remit of other organisations in ocean recovery.</li> <li>•Clarify budget requirements for ocean recovery within the Council's remit and identify delivery opportunities.</li> <li>•Distribute current budget (£50k) to inspire and educate residents about the importance of the ocean and Edinburgh's own marine and coastal environments.</li> </ul>	Opportunities for ocean literacy, coastal adaptation and habitat restoration identified and delivery progressed as budget allows.
3.18	Early Intervention	Work in partnership to develop a joint Edinburgh Partnership community cohesion strategy, including a joint definition, current challenges, good practice,	Lead: Community Safety & Justice Partnership (CSJP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnership definition of community cohesion agreed</li> <li>•Partnership community cohesion strategy</li> </ul>	To be determined by the strategy

		prevention-led approaches and mitigation protocols		approved by EP Board • Actions incorporated into CSJP (and other relevant SP) workplans.	
3.19	Early Intervention	Scope options for a single landing page to collate existing sources of support — physical hubs/community anchors and online resources.	Lead: CPMG / CPST	•Mapping of key projects complete •Key description of Edinburgh-specific services	More people access information (measured by web analytics)
3.20	Early Intervention	Continue to develop and deliver a Partnership approach Bonfire Night planning and response	Lead: CSJP  Support/Link: ECLDP, Children's Partnership	•Number of buses diverted •Police incident numbers •Youth diversions	•Reporting feeling safe where they live (Household survey) •Rating of neighbourhood as a place to live by SIMD •CPOP - Crime data
3.21	Early Intervention	Work in partnership to restore the burn within the Burdiehouse Burn Valley park setting, undertaking community engagement and participation throughout design process.	Lead: NZELB	•Completion of Phase 1 section of the burn restoration project.	A restored river landscape and parkland in part of the Burdiehouse Burn Valley Park.
3.22	Early Intervention	Work in partnership to complete the next phase of the Transport to Healthcare programme establishing a transport system that actively supports equitable access to healthcare.	Lead: NZELB	•Completion of options appraisal.	The development of a regional 'Transport to Health Strategy' that aims to achieve better outcomes for patients and NHS staff in a more efficient and effective system of integrated working practices.
3.23	Early Intervention	Work in partnership to deliver the 'Transport to Employment' programme.	Lead: LEP	•Delivery of grant funding to enable more accessible transport to employment and education.	Reduced public transport cost when travelling to new employment and further education.
3.24	Mitigation	Work in partnership to enhance lived experience practices around	Lead: CSJP	To be determined	To be determined

		justice services including with victims and families.			
3.25	Mitigation	Develop a partnership approach to Restorative Justice within communities in Edinburgh.	Lead: CSJP	•Agreed approach developed.	To be determined by the approach and where in the process RJ is introduced.
3.26	Mitigation	Work in partnership to better understand and respond to exploitation in the city.	Lead: CSJP		
3.27	Mitigation	Work in partnership to tackle hate crime in the city including establishing a joined-up approach to reporting and recording.	Lead: CSJP	•Reported hate crime data •Data sharing agreement in place	•To be determined • <b>CPOP</b> - Crime rate • Rating of neighbourhood as a place to live by SIMD
3.28	Mitigation	Establish sustainable housing pathways for people released from prison.	Lead: Housing Partnership Support/Link: CSJP	% of prison leavers leaving to 'suitable accommodation'	• <b>CPOP</b> - Crime rate • Homeless data for prison leavers over time (repeat homelessness)
3.29	Mitigation	Improve community supports (voluntary throughcare) for people in (and recently involved) in the justice system - ensuring accessible, flexible, integrated services delivering improved outcomes.	Lead: CSJP	•Diversions from prosecution •Alternatives from incarceration	• Recidivism • <b>CPOP</b> - Crime Rate
3.30	Mitigation	Deliver heritage adaptation and energy retrofit pilots to test innovative approaches to adapting World Heritage Site buildings and infrastructure.	Lead: NZELB (Edinburgh World Heritage, CEC, Historic Environment Scotland)	Delivery of up to 10 heritage adaptation and energy retrofit pilots.	• Reduction in carbon emissions of up to 10 pilot sites while adapting them for the changing climate • <b>CPOP</b> - Carbon Emissions • Developing and sharing learning from this process for future adaptation work

**Table 12:** Priority 3: Actions and Performance Indicators

# 10. Looking ahead

## The next Community Plan

### The next Community Plan

This refresh has sharpened our focus, strengthened our evidence base, and introduced a new way of measuring whether we are making a difference. But it is a recalibration of an existing plan, not a fundamental reimagining. The challenges Edinburgh faces, deepening poverty, a housing crisis, growing inequality, and the accelerating effects of climate change, demand more than the remaining months of this plan can fully address.

The new Community Plan, which will cover the period from 2028, offers that opportunity. It will be designed from the ground up, drawing on everything this Partnership has learned, and will be shaped by the voices of the communities most affected by poverty and inequality. The appetite for deeper participation that we heard clearly during this refresh will be central to how that plan is built. We are committed to making it worthy of the city Edinburgh can be.

### Emerging priorities

The data in Section 3 confirms that our three core priorities remain the right focus for this plan. But it also identifies a set of concerns that have grown significantly in scale since 2022. These are concerns that are not fully addressed within the body of this Community Plan, but which the Partnership is committed to holding in view.

- **Homelessness** — the scale of the housing emergency has deepened, with over 4,800 Edinburgh households in temporary accommodation, including 3,640 children. While housing supply and homelessness prevention actions are embedded within Priority 1, the full response required exceeds what this plan can deliver alone.
- **School readiness** — the evidence on early childhood and developmental inequalities points to a need for concerted early years action. Actions 1.7 and 2.12 address aspects of this, but a more comprehensive approach will be needed in the next plan.
- **Community cohesion** — recent societal pressures, including the aftermath of the 2026 conflict in the Middle East and growing inequalities, have heightened the importance of social cohesion. Action 3.19 begins the work of developing a joint community cohesion strategy, and this will need to be built on substantially.

- **Exploitation of children and adults** — this is addressed through Action 3.27 but remains an area where deeper, better coordinated partnership work is needed.
- **Substance use harms** — connections between substance use, poverty, homelessness, and health are well evidenced, and while several actions touch on this, it has not been possible within this refresh to give it the full strategic focus it warrants. For now, this area is being addressed through the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership.
- **Young people's mental wellbeing** — Action 2.12 provides a starting point, but the scale of the challenge, and its intersection with school readiness, poverty, and place, means it will need to be a central thread of the next plan.
- **The deepening cost of living crisis** — the financial pressures affecting households across Edinburgh continue to evolve. The actions in Priority 1 are calibrated to the current picture, but the Partnership will need to remain responsive as this landscape shifts.
- **The climate crisis** — the actions in Priority 3 address specific aspects of climate mitigation and adaptation, but the broader challenge of embedding a just transition, one that protects those least able to cope with the effects of climate change, will require a more fundamental approach in the next Community Plan.

### **How we will keep these priorities in view between now and 2028**

The Edinburgh Partnership's Management Group will receive quarterly progress reports on delivery of this plan. Where emerging priorities are touched by existing actions, these will be monitored through the performance framework set out in Section 10. Beyond individual actions, the Partnership is committed to three things that will help ensure these themes are not lost in the transition to the next plan:

- **The Participation Strategy** (Action 3.5) will be co-designed with partners and communities and will shape how people experiencing the issues above, including those with lived experience of homelessness, exploitation, or mental ill-health, are involved in the design of the next Community Plan.
- **The Communications and Engagement Plan** to be developed as part of this refresh, will set out how communities can track what the Partnership is delivering and hold it to account. The Communications and Engagement Plan for the next Community Plan will outline the many ways communities can shape our future work priorities and action.
- **The scoping work for the new Community Plan**, which will begin shortly, will draw explicitly on the emerging priorities identified here. The thematic partnerships, and their leads, will be asked to bring forward evidence on what has and hasn't worked in relation to these themes, so that the new plan can respond to the full breadth of Edinburgh's challenges from the outset.

The Edinburgh Partnership is aware of the limits of what this refresh can do. The purpose of naming these emerging priorities explicitly is not to overstate the progress made, but to be honest about the scale of what lies ahead and to ensure that nothing identified in this plan is simply set aside when this Community Plan reaches its end in 2028.

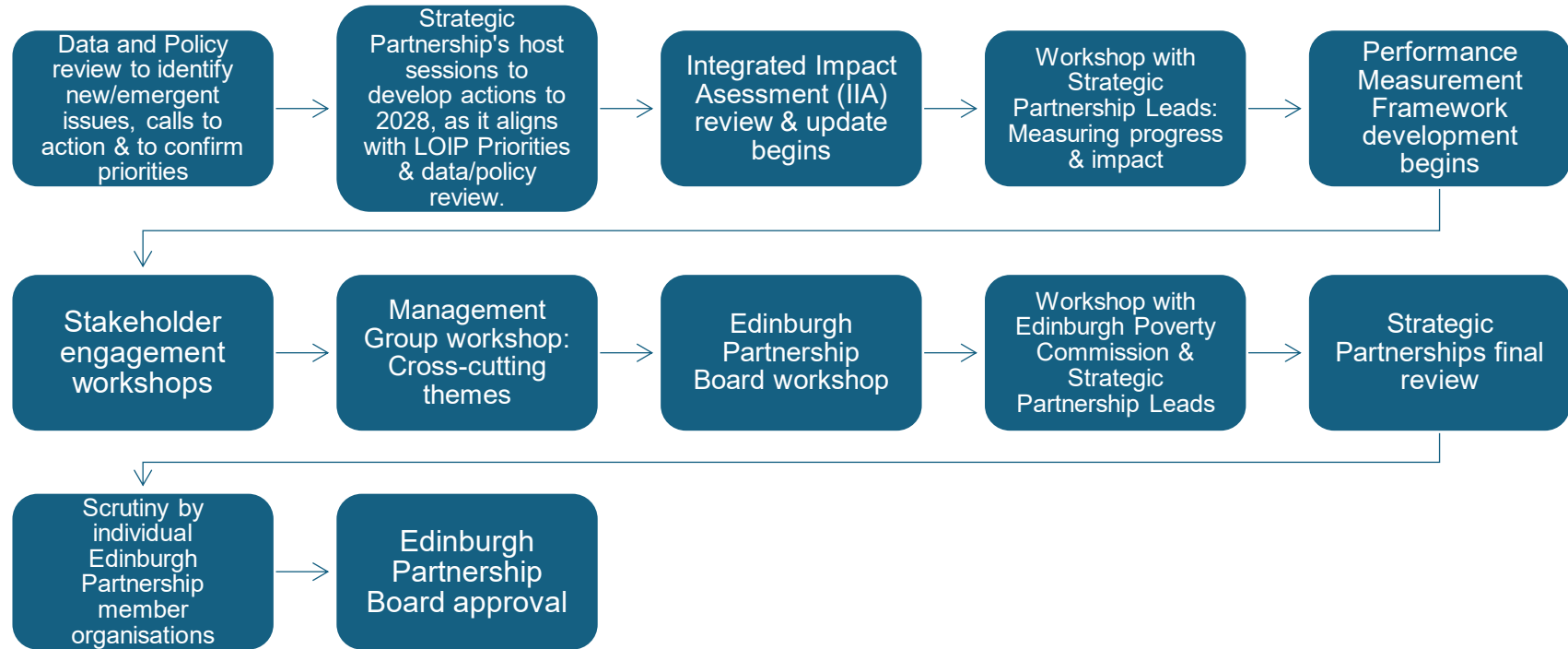
Information about the progress of this plan can be found on the [Edinburgh Partnership website](#).

# 11. Appendices

Appendix	Contents
A: Engagement and Participation Process	Figure 1: overview of how we engaged communities and partners in developing this refresh
B: Edinburgh Partnership Board Membership & Structure	The 14 Edinburgh Partnership Board members, and a diagram of the governance structure for the Edinburgh Partnership, including the seven Strategic Partnerships.
C: The Partnership Landscape	A list of strategies and plans developed by Partners and that have relevance, but which this Community Plan does not seek to duplicate.
D: Integrated Impact Assessment (Updated 2026)	
E: Glossary	Definitions of key terms used in this plan
F: References / Bibliography	All sources cited in this document

**Table 13:** Appendix contents list

## Appendix A: The Engagement and Participation Process



**Figure 2:** Engagement and participation process

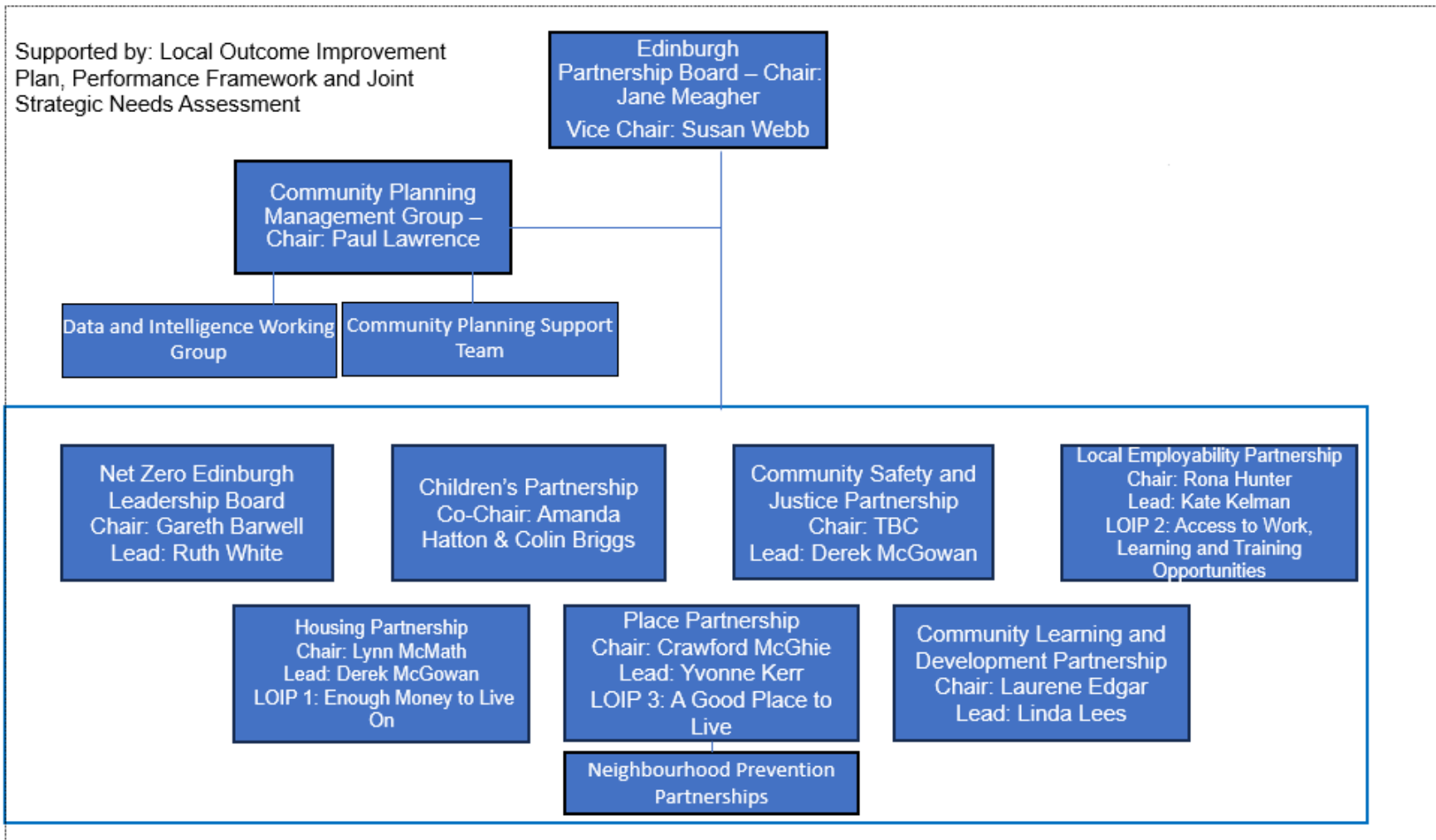
## **Appendix B: The Edinburgh Partnership Board Membership and Structure**

There are over forty Partners involved in the work of the Edinburgh Partnership.

Fourteen Partners currently sit on the Edinburgh Partnership Board:

- Armed Forces
- City of Edinburgh Council
- Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce
- Edinburgh Affordable Housing Partnership
- Edinburgh Association of Community Councils – Community of Place Representative
- Edinburgh College
- Edinburgh Integration Joint Board
- Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council – Third Sector Interface Representative
- NHS Lothian
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Enterprise
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Skills Development Scotland
- University of Edinburgh

Details about the role and responsibilities of each of the bodies within the Edinburgh Partnership structure can be found [on our website](#).



**Figure 3: The Edinburgh Partnership Structure**

## Appendix C: The Partnership Landscape

Partners across the city already work together through a wide range of strategies and plans including examples below. The Community Plan does not seek to duplicate these strategies or the plans of individual partner organisations. Its purpose is to set out the additional actions, leadership, and collaboration that only the Edinburgh Partnership can provide.

- **Children and young people:** Statutory Plans developed within the Edinburgh Partnership Structure e.g. [Edinburgh Children's Services Plan](#) (new plan coming 2026) and Edinburgh Community Learning and Development Plan.
- **Health and wellbeing:** [Edinburgh Integration Joint Board](#), and [Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan](#).
- **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:** [Equality and Rights Network \(EaRN\)](#)
- **Economic Development:** [Edinburgh Economy Strategy](#), [Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal](#) and [Edinburgh Community Wealth Building Plan](#).
- **Placemaking and sustainable communities:** [City Housing Strategy](#), Edinburgh [Housing Emergency Action Plan](#), [City Mobility Plan](#), and [City Plan 2030](#).
- **Community justice and safety:** Statutory Plans developed within the Edinburgh Partnership Structure: [Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan](#) and [Community Safety Strategy](#).
- **Climate and sustainability:** [Climate Ready Edinburgh Plan](#).
- **Locality planning:** The Place Partnership is co-designing Locality Plans with the five NPP areas; these plans will set out local actions to improve outcomes.

**Appendix D: Updated Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)**

See appendix

## Appendix E: Glossary

Term	Definition
<b>Community</b>	The people living in one particular area, or people who are considered as a unit because of their common interests, social group, or nationality. ( <i>Cambridge Dictionary</i> )
<b>Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015</b>	The Act empowers community bodies through the ownership or control of land and buildings, and by strengthening their voices in decisions about public services. It covers 11 topics and was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 17 June 2015, receiving Royal Assent on 24 July 2015. ( <i>Scottish Government</i> )
<b>Community Plan</b>	See Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.
<b>Community Planning Partnership (CPP)</b>	The name given to all those services that come together to take part in community planning. There are 32 CPPs across Scotland, one for each council area. Each CPP focuses on where partners' collective efforts and resources can add the most value to their local communities, with particular emphasis on reducing inequality. ( <i>Scottish Government</i> )
<b>Edinburgh Partnership</b>	The Community Planning Partnership (CPP) for Edinburgh.
<b>Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP)</b>	Covers the whole council area, describing the priorities and planned improvements. Also referred to as 'LOIP' or 'community plan'. ( <i>paraphrased from Scottish Government</i> )
<b>Locality Plans</b>	Cover smaller areas within the CPP area which experience significantly poorer outcomes than either the rest of the CPP area or Scotland as a whole, in line with the expectations set out in the Community Empowerment Act and associated guidance. Each CPP will produce at least one Locality Plan; there is no fixed maximum number.
<b>Neighbourhood Prevention Partnerships (NPPs)</b>	Areas of most concentrated child poverty within Edinburgh where we will develop a partnership response and produce Locality Plans to support progress on outcomes.

**Table 14:** Glossary terms

## Appendix F: Bibliography

All references in the document are listed below. The references are hyperlinked in the text throughout the document for ease.

### Legislation and statutory guidance

[Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015](#) | Scottish Government, 2015

*Used for: Section 1 (what the Edinburgh Partnership is and what it is required to do); Section 4 (Focus on Poverty and Inequality).*

[Community Planning Statutory Guidance](#)

*Used for: Section 4 (Focus on Poverty and Inequality)*

[Fairer Scotland Duty Guidance for Public Bodies](#) | Scottish Government

*Used for: Section 4 (Focus on Poverty and Inequality).*

### Edinburgh Partnership

[Edinburgh Partnership Annual Reports](#) | Edinburgh Partnership

*Used for: Section 1 (achievements and progress made to date).*

[Edinburgh Partnership Survey Results \(2023\)](#) | Edinburgh Partnership, 2023

*Used for: Section 3 (People's experiences) and Section 8 (What do we know). Source for citywide satisfaction, belonging, and safety figures; deprivation gap in each of these measures.*

[Edinburgh Partnership Data and Intelligence webpages](#) | Edinburgh Partnership

*Used for: Section 3 (closing reference — further data and analysis).*

[Edinburgh Partnership Commissioned Review of Welfare Rights and Dept Advice](#) | Edinburgh Partnership

[Edinburgh Partnership Board: Financial Governance Paper and agreed recommendations](#) | Edinburgh Partnership, March 2026

*Used for: Section 4 (How we developed this plan – the Third Sector Review)*

### Edinburgh Poverty Commission

[A Just Capital: Final Report](#) | Edinburgh Poverty Commission, 2020

*Used for: Section 1 (Why refresh — context for 2022 refresh).*

[A Just Capital 2025: New Actions to End Poverty in Edinburgh](#) | Edinburgh Poverty Commission, 2025

*Used for: Sections 1, 3, 6, and 7. Source for: poverty rate unchanged since 2020; 36,000 people to lift out of poverty by 2030; poverty becoming deeper; no pathway to ending poverty without resolving the housing crisis; one in three households in poverty due to housing costs; 61% of people in poverty in a working household; 15,000 people on in-work Universal Credit; JRF modelling — 60,000 children lifted out of poverty by increasing parents in work.*

### Population and demographics

[Scotland's Census 2022](#) | National Records of Scotland, 2022

Used for: Section 3 (Population demographics). Source for: total population 530,680; population growth since 2011; age breakdown; ethnicity data.

[Population Estimates Time Series Data](#) | National Records of Scotland, 2025

Used for: Section 3 (Population demographics table).

[Small Area Population Estimates: mid-2022](#) | National Records of Scotland, 2024

Used for: Section 3 (Population demographics — SIMD deprivation data; 26% of residents in most deprived 40% of Scotland).

[Tackling Child Poverty: Priority Families Overview](#) | Scottish Government

Used for: Section 3 (Population demographics — priority family types at greatest risk of poverty).

## Health and outcomes data

[Vulnerabilities: applying All Our Health](#) | UK Government, 2022

[Community Planning Outcomes Profile \(CPOP\)](#) | Improvement Service / Scottish Government

Used for: Section 3 (Population outcomes). Source for: Edinburgh performance across 18 outcome indicators; 7 indicators where Edinburgh is not keeping pace with Scotland; data on most vulnerable communities.

[National Performance Framework](#) | Scottish Government

Used for: Section 3 (Population outcomes — CPOP indicators aligned with National Outcomes).

[NHS Lothian Core Public Health Data Set](#) | NHS Lothian

Used for: Section 3 (Population outcomes). Source for: life expectancy by SIMD quintile — 82.2 years (women) and 78.3 years (men) city average; 9-year and 12-year gap between most and least deprived areas.

[NHS Lothian Public Health Survey Results \(2023\)](#) | NHS Lothian, 2024

Used for: Sections 3, 6, 7, and 8. Source for: loneliness and deprivation; food insecurity by deprivation and ethnicity; fuel poverty by deprivation and ethnicity; mental wellbeing; educational attainment by deprivation; temporary contract employment by ethnicity; life satisfaction scores.

[Joint Strategic Needs Assessment — Adult Health and Social Care](#) | Edinburgh Integration Joint Board, 2025

Used for: Section 3 (introduction).

[Joint Strategic Needs Assessment — Children and Young People in Edinburgh](#) | NHS Lothian / Edinburgh Partnership, 2025

Used for: Section 3 (introduction).

## Public Policy, Public Health frameworks and research

[Scotland's Population Health Framework 2025–2035](#) | Scottish Government, 2025

Used for: Section 3 (Poverty — building blocks of a good life). Section 4 (Focus on Poverty and Inequality — Public Health Priorities for Scotland).

[Proportionate Universalism: What is it, and how do we apply it?](#) | Public Health Scotland

Used for: Section 4 (Proportionate Universalism).

[Health Impacts Across Different Groups — Climate Change](#) | Public Health Scotland, 2025

Used for: Section 3 (Climate and sustainability) and Section 4 (Planning for Future Needs). Source for: deprived communities disproportionately affected by climate change.

[Scottish Health Equity Research Unit \(SHERU\) — Edinburgh research on poverty, employment and homelessness](#) | SHERU

Used for: Section 3 (Poverty). Source for: research on employment, homelessness, and young men in areas of high deprivation. Note: full findings are pending.

[The Christie Commission](#) | 2011

*Used for: Section 5 (Our Priorities).*

[Public Health Priorities for Scotland](#) | COSLA and Scottish Government, 2018

*Used for: Section 8 (A good place to live).*

## Homelessness

[Homelessness in Scotland: Update to 30 September 2025](#) | Scottish Government, 2025

*Used for: Section 6 (What do we know). Source for: 4,802 Edinburgh households in temporary accommodation including 3,640 children, as of September 2025.*

## Employment and poverty

[Children in relative low income, United Kingdom](#) | Leeds Observatory, 2018

*Used for: Section 5 (Our Approach).*

[Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland 2021–24](#) | Scottish Government, 2025

*Used for: Section 7 (What do we know). Source for: poverty rates by ethnic group 2019–2024 — 43% for Asian or Asian British; 50% for Mixed, Black or Black British and Other; 18% for White British.*

[Labour Market Statistics for Scotland by Ethnicity 2023](#) | Scottish Government, 2024 | Scottish Government, 2024

*Used for: Section 7 (What do we know). Source for: 13.8% employment gap between ethnically diverse and white populations in Scotland.*

[Ethnicity-and-Employment-recent-data-Oct-23.pdf](#), Capital City Partnership, 2023

## Children, young people, and education

[Participation Measure for 16–24 Year Olds](#) | Skills Development Scotland | Skills Development Scotland

*Used for: Section 7 (What do we know). Source for: care-experienced young people less likely to be in positive destinations; 7% gap between best and worst performing wards.*

## Housing

[Housing Prices in Edinburgh](#) | Office for National Statistics, 2026

*Used for: Section 8 (What do we know). Source for: average house price in Edinburgh approximately six times average gross annual earnings; Edinburgh least affordable city in Scotland to buy a home.*

[Labour Market Profile](#): City of Edinburgh Office for National Statistics, 2022

*Used for: Section 8 (What do we know). Source for: average house price in Edinburgh approximately six times average gross annual earnings; Edinburgh least affordable city in Scotland to buy a home.*

## Place and health inequalities

[Public Health Priorities for Scotland, 2018](#) | Scottish Government

*Used for: Section 8 (Priority 3 introduction). Cited as the source for the built environment as a key determinant of health.*

[Health Equity in England: The Marmot Review 10 Years On](#) | Institute of Health Equity | Marmot M. et al., 2020 Health equity in

England: The Marmot Review 10 years on. London: Institute of Health Equity

*Used for: Section 8 (Priority 3 introduction). Cited for built environment and health determinants.*

## **Child maintenance**

### **Better for Everyone: Transforming Child Maintenance (2025)**

*Used for: Section 6 (What do we know). Source for: 210,000 children lifted out of poverty if child maintenance paid to all entitled children across the UK; 20,000 in Scotland.*

## **Employment outcomes in Edinburgh**

### **Attainment figures by SIMD deprivation in Edinburgh**

*Used for: Section 7 (What do we know). Data point flagged in draft as outstanding — confirm figures and source before publication.*

## **Equality and impact assessment**

### **Integrated Impact Assessments — City of Edinburgh Council | City of Edinburgh Council**

*Used for: Section 4 (Integrated Impact Assessment).*